

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3A



ANC 3A PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Quorum call: Commissioners Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis (3A01), Judy Havemann (3A02), and Ann Mladinov (3A05) were present, which made a quorum. (Three of the Commissioners constitute a quorum.) Commissioner Jeremy Del Moral (3A04) arrived at 8 pm.

Verification of Meeting Notice: Commissioner Mladinov confirmed that the ANC meeting notice had been posted 7 days in advance of the meeting on the ANC 3A website, local listservs in Cleveland Park, Tenleytown, Glover Park, and McLean Gardens, and the Nextdoor e-network, meeting the requirement.

Agenda: Chair Bradley-Lewis made a motion to vote on the proposed meeting agenda. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Resolutions Adopted

Letter Expressing Appreciation for the service of Commissioner Hans Miller (ANC3A03) from January 2023 through April 2024 when he moved from his Single Member District and submitted his resignation. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed letter. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the letter.

Administrative Matters

Minutes of April 16 Regular Public Meeting. The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the minutes as presented.

Expenditure of prorated charge of \$6.09 for Zoom Pro virtual conference technology. (This represents the portion of the second year of the contract that ANC 3A is responsible for paying, after OCTO assumed responsibility for paying all ANC Zoom and other virtual meeting accounts in early May.) The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed expenditure. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the expenditure.

Next monthly public meeting: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 (the second Tuesday of the month)

Adjournment: The Chair made a motion to vote on adjourning. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

FULL SUMMARY

The Chair Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. The meeting was held in “hybrid” format, virtually via Zoom and in-person at the McLean Gardens Ballroom.

The Chair asked for a roll call. Commissioners Bradley-Lewis (3A01), Judy Havemann (3A02), and Ann Mladinov (3A05) were present and participating in the meeting. Commissioner Mladinov confirmed that made a quorum. (Three of the Commissioners constitute a quorum.)

The Chair made a motion to vote on the proposed meeting agenda, with one amendment to omit the presentation on the Mayor's FY 2025 budget. There was a death on the staff of the speaker, Sam Abed, Director of the DC Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, and he was unable to attend. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the agenda with that amendment.

MPD Community Report

Captain Darren Haskis of the MPD Second District provided a summary of recent crimes and crime statistics in ANC 3A/Police Service Area 204. He reported that general thefts are much higher in 2024 to date compared to 2023. Several local CVS have seen repeated thefts. He said MPD has assigned more police to patrol in the Newark Street commercial area for crime prevention. He also reported that thefts from autos year to date were down considerably from 2023, thanks to residents not leaving items in their vehicles. Captain Haskis advised everyone to lock their vehicles and not leave vehicles idling. But there has been an uptick in vehicle thefts, partly from thefts of motorcycles that are parked outside.

In response to questions from the ANC and residents about the carjacking on the morning of Saturday, June 13, on the 3000 block of Idaho Avenue, Captain Haskis checked MPD records and found that the vehicle had been tracked and MPD had identified two individuals of interest in the case. He said the investigation is continuing.

The Chair mentioned a new pilot program that allows individuals to use the DC 311 system to send photos of a commercial vehicle such as a delivery truck left idling for more than 3 minutes on the street, which is against District law. For more information, see <https://doee.dc.gov/service/engine-anti-idling-law>

Presentation about the programs and activities of Tenleytown Main Street (TMS)

The new TMS Executive Director, Noah Getz, spoke about the work of the Tenleytown Main Street organization, which supports the small businesses along the Wisconsin Avenue corridor from Rodman Street in ANC 3A north to Fessenden Street in ANC 3E, through technical assistance, grants, and other activities. It is supported partly by District funds and partly by private donations. TMS is one of 26 Main Street programs in the District, accredited by [Main Street America™](#) so the Main Street efforts is national but each Main Street program is managed by a community-based non-profit and has a local focus. TMS works with local residents and businesses to strengthen the economic vitality of Tenleytown and to achieve a thriving, friendly walkable business district in the heart of the neighborhood.

Mr. Getz mentioned several events on the calendar including Tenleyfest June 1 with music and local artists working with children to create art, and a Bastille Day event involving multiple area restaurants on July 14. He also noted that TMS welcomes sponsors and volunteers, and encouraged anyone interested to email infor@tenleytownmainstreet.org See <https://tenleytownmainstreet.org/> for more information.

Commissioner Havemann asked if TMS works with Cathedral Commons. Mr. Getz responded that the area that the TMS is designated to serve ends at Rodman Street but City Ridge and Cathedral Commons development share the same manager, Bozzuto, so there are opportunities for cooperation.

Presentation about Neighborhood Partnership Program sponsored by the KRoussaw Foundation

Kalil Roussaw, founder and leader of the KRoussaw Foundation, spoke about the work of the organization particularly in supporting learning and development of young people in communities around the District, through in-school programs during the school day, at lunch, and after school. They support performing arts, culinary arts, mentoring, social and emotional learning. They are currently working with Hearst School and hopes to develop partnerships with additional groups in Ward 3 over the summer. He said the foundation is focused on health and wellness of young people, growth and sustainability of families, and a sense of community. See: www.kroussawfoundation.org/

Notices of new zoning and liquor license applications in ANC3A and due dates for public comment

By law, each ANC is required to share with the public the information about these notices so people affected have a chance to participate. The agenda included one application for a liquor license in ANC 3A and one application for zoning relief. Commissioner Mladinov read the information on the applications and directions for interested members of the community to submit comments:

- Lidl grocery opening soon at Upton Place, 4000 Wisconsin Avenue NW, had applied to ABRA for a Retailer Class “A” 25% License to sell beer, wine and spirits accounting for no more than 25% of the establishment’s annual revenues (ABRA-127167). Petitions and/or requests to appear at a hearing before the ABC Board were due to abra.legal@dc.gov on or before June 24. The applicant planned to participate in the ANC 3A June 18 public meeting to make a presentation and answer questions.

Commissioner Mladinov also read the information about a new zoning request in ANC3A03:

- Property owners David Steadman and Daphne Kiplinger had applied to the BZA for a zoning Special Exception at 4117 38th Street NW (BZA Case 21162) to construct a two-story addition with a basement at an existing two-story semi-detached home (also with a basement) in the R-2 zone in ANC3A03. The addition and proposed rear deck would extend to within 3.5 feet of the existing accessory building (a garage on the rear alley), so they are required to get a Special Exception from the 20-foot rear yard requirement measured from the principal dwelling to an accessory building, under DC Municipal Regulations Subtitle D § 5004.1(a), D § 5201.1, and X § 901.2. The ANC is planning to hear a presentation of the project by the applicants at the ANC 3A public meeting on June 18. The applicants have asked for an Expedited Review, which means that the DC Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) will consider the application at a BZA meeting but the case would not be subject to a full hearing or testimony from witnesses. The BZA would accept comments up to scheduled meeting date on July 3, submitted to bzasubmissions@dc.gov Members of the community were also invited to share any comments or questions on the proposed project with the ANC by email to 3a@anc.dc.gov

Commissioner Updates

The Chair reported that McLean Gardens is proposing solar panels on the pool house, and would be voting the following day. The investment, which required a majority vote by the members of the association, is part of complying with the District’s new Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) which many other buildings in the area are also working to meet.

The Chair also reported that he had attended a meeting about the proposed redevelopment of the property at 3427 and 3433 Wisconsin Avenue. The plan was to move the two houses starting on June 6, which was expected to take 3 to 4 weeks, and then begin construction on the planned apartments which will take 16 to 18 months. He asked anyone with questions to reach out to him at 3A01@anc.dc.gov or by using the ANC email 3A@anc.dc.gov

Commissioner Mladinov reported that the WMATA FY2025 budget had been approved by the WMATA Board in April, which included added funds expected from DC, Maryland, and Virginia. With the new funding and cost savings WMATA had identified, it was expecting to be able to avert the large fare increases and most of the severe reductions in Metrobus and Metrorail service that were proposed in December 2023.

Commissioner Mladinov also reported that WMATA had released a revised version of its proposed 2025 bus network map as part of the Better Bus Initiative, issued on May 7, and the WMATA Board had opened a public comment period from May 13-July 15. The proposal includes renaming and reconfiguring all current Metrobus routes. Details on the proposal, including maps of all the proposed bus routes, were posted at: <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/plans/Better-Bus/upload/EN-Route-Profiles-and-Crosswalk-05-06-24.pdf> Directions on how to get more information and submit comments was posted at: <https://betterbus.wmata.com/share>

The Chair emphasized the importance of quality bus service to the ANC area, proportionate to the density of development, to meet people's transportation needs as well as environmental goals. A lot of the proposed changes in the Revised Better Bus Network map appear to reduce frequency or eliminate service that people have used and become used to. With the development in the area, including at Upton Place which is just opening, there is going to have to be efficient, effective, reliable bus service. He observed that since ANC 3A was established, transportation and bus service had been among the most frequent topics of discussion; the Commissioners had talked to Councilmember Frumin and worked with other Commissioners on the issue to date, and it would be really important to coordinate with other ANCs and CM Frumin's office on the Better Bus proposals.

Commissioner Del Moral entered the meeting at 8 pm.

Commissioner Havemann asked if there was a way to raise the visibility of the Better Bus proposals, and asked particularly if the revised map would offer any bus service for people on 38th Street in Cathedral Heights to get to Connecticut Avenue. Commissioner Mladinov said that under the 2025 Better Bus plan, the route now served by the 96 bus would continue to be operated along Woodley Road between Wisconsin Avenue and Woodley Park Metro. It would be useful the ANC to share information on the Better Bus plan and encourage people to submit comments. She also emphasized that with the relatively short time for comments, it would be important for the people who are familiar with local bus services and have been studying the Better Bus project to put together the strongest possible points about potential effects of the proposal for people in the community and get those to CM Frumin who was very helpful on the Preliminary Network Map in 2023, and also share recommendations with other Councilmembers, DDOT, and WMATA. They are the ones in a position to affect decisions about the Better Bus process, funding, and bus operations over the coming months.

The Commissioners concluded that ANC 3A would have a longer discussion of the proposal at its June 18 meeting and would welcome constituents' comments to use in developing official comments for the ANC to submit to WMATA about the revised Better Bus proposals.

Commissioner Del Moral reported that he attended a meeting on Student Life at American University where they shared the curriculum AU uses each year for students who are planning to live off-campus. The training is about 45 minutes long and covers what's expected of students living in the community. He encouraged other Commissioners and residents to participate in the AU Neighborhood Partnership meetings on Student Life and other topics.

Community Announcements

Matthew Barclay of the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) reported that he is now the only representative from his office who is working with Ward 3. There had previously been a second staff person working with him. He also mentioned several milestones. The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) had announced that the combined student enrollment in DC public schools and public charter schools reached a new record since the formation of that office. Mr. Barclay also noted that the DC Department of Parks and Recreation had opened its summer programs for the year.

Joe Dweck of CM Frumin's office reported the Council was having mark-ups of the Mayor's FY2025 budget and the Councilmember was focusing on ensuring adequate funding to support prosperity and opportunity. He said that work was going on to get parks and other properties in shape by Memorial Day, and the Wilson Pool was targeted to reopen Memorial Day if the schedule holds. The pool had required quite a bit of equipment to be replaced. He also announced that CM Frumin would be holding the next Work Day in the Ward on Thursday, May 23, from 8 am-12 noon at the Den Coffee Shop in Politics and Prose bookstore, 5016 Connecticut Avenue NW, for residents to meet with him and DC agency staff.

Open Forum

David White expressed his appreciation for the information provided by Captain Haskis about the carjacking on Idaho Avenue. He also noted his frustration over the relocation of the bus stop at Wisconsin Avenue and Porter Street, which was a DDOT proposal but involved WMATA. And he asked why he couldn't find his DC 311 request to DDOT to make traffic safety improvements at Wisconsin and Fulton, submitted many months ago. That led to a discussion of the ANC's complaints about DDOT's TSI 2.0 system. Commissioner Mladinov said that DDOT takes 311 requests for Traffic Safety Investigations and rolls them into an online "Dashboard" where they are relabeled "Traffic Safety Inputs" and considered as part of a prioritization process, though exactly how it works has not been explained. She observed that it is difficult to find what if anything is being done on a particular request or when there might be any progress on it, and almost no TSI requests in ANC 3A have been investigated since TSI 2.0 was adopted in late 2022. The Chair agreed that though it is understandable that DDOT has many demands to balance, the administration has failed to demonstrate a commitment to traffic safety. Commissioner Del Moral noted that DDOT has to put its funds into areas where there are high numbers of traffic deaths and injuries, but that can mean that if there aren't deaths or injuries, nothing gets done on safety problems.

Commissioner Del Moral also mentioned that there is serious erosion between the sidewalk and the street along Massachusetts Avenue and Macomb Street, that has developed into almost a 4-inch hole where a person could easily break an ankle or worse. To date, none of the requests for attention to the problem have gotten an adequate solution to the problem.

Administrative Matters

Commissioner Mladinov had prepared draft minutes of the April 16 ANC 3A public meeting. The Chair made a motion to vote on the minutes. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the April minutes.

Commissioner Del Moral read the ANC 3A April financial report. There had been no transactions:

ANC 3A April Financial Report

Opening Balance (April 1): \$17,720.50

- Income: None
 - Cash Withdrawals: None
 - Expenditures: None
 - Bank Fees: None
- (Monthly Fee waived)

Ending Balance (April 30): \$17,720.50

Commissioner Del Moral also reported that the Office of ANCs (OANC) had provided updated balances for the ANC 3A account, after the Commission voted at the April meeting to approve the Quarterly Financial Report for the Second Quarter of FY2024, ending March 31. The opening balance on January 1 was \$17,946.18. OANC had provided an official marked-up Quarterly Report showing the updated balances, on the original signed document, so the ANC did not have to approve or sign a new copy.

The Chair reported that in early May, the Office of ANCs had informed the Commission that the District's Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) had assumed responsibility for all virtual meeting technology used by ANCs to the District's account and shifted the billing to OCTO. That meant ANC 3A would only have to pay a small prorated amount of \$6.09 for the second year of Zoom Pro virtual conferencing technology that had been initially contracted in April 2023. The Chair made a motion

to vote on approving expenditure of \$6.09 for Zoom Pro. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the expenditure.

The Chair announced that Commissioner Hans Miller (ANC 3A03) had moved out of his Single Member District and had submitted an official letter of resignation effective April 30. Because only six months remain before the General Election in November, the ANC cannot hold a special election and there will be a vacancy in ANC 3A03 until a new Commissioner can be elected through the General Election process. Candidates elected in November will be sworn in at the beginning of January 2025.

Commissioner Mladinov presented a resolution expressing appreciation for Commissioner Miller's service. The Chair moved to vote on approving the resolution. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the resolution.

The Chair announced that the next monthly public meeting would be Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

The Chair made a motion to vote on adjourning the meeting. The motion was seconded and the Commission voted 4-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

These minutes were approved by the Commission by a vote of 4 - 0 at its duly noticed public meeting on June 18, 2024, at which a quorum was present. (Three of the Commissioners constitute a quorum.)